AN ESSAY

ON THE MANY

ADVANTAGES

ACCRUING TO THE

COMMUNITY,

FROM THE

perior NEATNESS, CONVENIENCIES, DECORATIONS *and* EMBELLISHMENTS *of* Great *and* Capital CITTES,

PARTICULARLY APPLY'D

he CITY and SUBURBS of *LONDON*,

Renowned Capital of the *British* EMPIRE.

ADDRESSED TO

JOHN BARNARD, *Knt.*

Alderman, and Senior *Representative in Parliament of the said* CITY.

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BODLEIANA BIBLIOTHECA

TO

Sir John Barnard, *Knt.*

SIR,

THAT diſintereſted Zeal which you have ſo long, and ſo ſucceſsfully exerted, for the Welfare and Credit of your Country, and more eminently of its great Metropolis, in the different Capacities of Magiſtrate and Senator; place you in ſo conſpicuous a Point of View, that it was, I may ſay, ſcarcely poſſible for me not to have you in my Thoughts, when treating of a Subject, the Importance whereof, you ſo well underſtand, and are ſo nearly concerned in.

BY the general Voice of your Fellow-Citizens, your great and good Qualities have long ſince intitled you to the noble Character of

being the FATHER OF THE CITY OF LONDON, in the moſt exalted Senſe; even long before you became literally ſo denominated, as its *Senior Magiſtrate:* As you are alſo its eldeſt Repreſentative in Parliament.

TO your unrivalled Honour, it may be truly ſaid, That more publick and private Teſtimonies have been given of your *ſuperior Merit*, by the moſt intimate, and therefore the moſt proper Judges of it, than have been *beſtowed* on any Citizen of *London*, ſince the early Days of Sir *Thomas Greſham*.

A SEASON like the preſent, of profound Peace and Tranquillity, is undoubtedly the only proper one for the Subject of this Eſſay. A Subject, *as herein peculiarly apply'd to our great Metropolis*, not before handled by any, as far as I know. Whilſt almoſt every conſiderable City beyond Sea, and many of our own at Home, (as *Dublin*, *Edinburgh*, *Briſtol*, *Glouceſter*, *Bath*, &c.) are diligently embelliſhing and adorning, juſtly perceiving the ſubſtantial Benefits ariſing therefrom. Shall the City of *London* remain any longer ſupine and inactive, until it be rivalled, and in ſome Meaſure eclipſed, by Cities both Abroad and at Home, not even ſo conſiderable as one of her ſingle Wards?

SINCE the laſt general Pacification, almoſt every Nation in *Europe*, is puſhing into *Commerce*, *Manufactures* and *Fiſheries*, more than ever was known before. It therefore behooves us, who ſtill hold the Superiority in Trade and Navigation, not only to keep the Ground which we gained by Perſeverance and Induſtry, and have ſo long held; but which we are in no ſmall Danger of loſing, by the indefatigable Application of our moſt dangerous Rivals in both;

both; but likewiſe to ſtudy every Means in our Power to attract the *Rich* and *Noble* to reſort to us, from every Corner of *Europe*; whereby our Commerce, Manufactures and Shipping, our Wealth and our People, would be greatly increaſed. Theſe, and ſuch-like Conſiderations, induced me to fall into this hitherto untrodden Path. If therein I have been ſo happy as to trace out any Thing which may be uſeful or profitable to the Publick, I ſhall have the Pleaſure of it; which will be to me a ſufficient Recompence. If otherwiſe, I have loſt my Labour; but ſhall however, have the Satisfaction of teſtifying my well-meant, tho' impotent Zeal, for the Honour and Intereſt of our renowned Metropolis.

A N

AN ESSAY ON Decorations *and* Embelliſhments FOR THE CITY of *LONDON.*

HISTORY, and the MUSES, have immortalized the Fame of many of the fine Cities of Antiquity, now no more: The very Ruins of ſome of them fill up whole Volumes of modern Travellers and Hiſtoriographers. Nor are they leſs laviſh on the Beauties and Elegancies of modern ROME and of *Venice*, *Florence*, *Naples*, *Genoa*, &c. where is to be ſeen a kind of Profuſion of MARBLE, *Sculpture* and *Painting*; exquiſite *Statues*, grand and elegant Buildings, *Columns*, *Obeliſks*, *Pyramids*, *Triumphal-Arches*, *Domes*, *Piazzas*, *Porticoes*, *Fountains*, &c. All which are wonderfully adapted to captivate the Imagination, and to attract Admiration.

The Fame of ancient fine Cities.

And of modern ones.

No marvel, therefore, that ſome of the greateſt foreign Princes, and moſt of their

 politeſt

politeſt Subjects, from every Country in *Chriſtendom*; do, once at leaſt, viſit thoſe alluring Places, and generally reſide at them for ſome Time: Many are ſo much enamoured with them, as to repeat their Viſits; and the Remembrance of their Charms, ſupply agreeable and frequent Matter for Converſation, all their Lives after.

FLORENCE's *Encomium!*

That great Emperor *Charles* V. and King of *Spain*, was ſo much captivated with the Grandeur and Elegance of FLORENCE, at his firſt Viſit; that he pleaſantly ſaid, *It was too fine a City to be ſhewn, but on a Holiday.*

The Honour *and* Benefit *of the fine* Decorations *of* Cities.

The Decorations, and fine Embelliſhments of Cities, more eſpecially of great and capital ones; whilſt they reflect *Honour*, *State* and *Dignity*, on their Sovereigns, their Country, and their own particular Magiſtrates and Citizens, will ever be found productive of perpetual Acceſſions of *Wealth* and *Commerce*; of *People*, *Power* and *Influence:* Seeing, a general Reſort to, and Reſidence at ſuch finely adorned Cities, by Perſons of high Rank and Opulence, will neceſſarily occaſion much Money to be brought thither, and will as neceſſarily bring much Employment to their People.

BOTERO's *Teſtimony.*

GIOVANNI BOTERO, an eminent *Italian*, in a Treatiſe written near the Cloſe of the XVIth Century; a Tranſlation of which was printed at *London*, in 1606, intitled, *Of the Cauſes of the Magnificence and Greatneſs of Cities*, obſerves, " That *magnificent* " and *gorgeous Buildings*, *Theatres*, *Porti-*

" *coes*,

" *coes, Circus's, Fountains, Pictures,* and " ſuch-like excellent and wonderful Things, " as delight, and create Admiration, *are the* " *Means of drawing Multitudes to ſuch* " *Cities.* Thus, of old, the City of *Samos* " was frequented, for the Vaſtneſs of its " Temple. *Alexandria*, for its famous " Tower and Lighthouſe of *Pharos*; *Mem-* " *phis*, for its Vicinity to the *Pyramids*; " *Rhodes*, for its *Coloſſus*; *Babylon*, for its " wonderful Walls; Alſo *Mitylene*, *Smyrna*, " *Pergamus*, &c. were frequented by the " *Romans* for their BEAUTY."

To the very ſame Effect writes our great *Raleigh*; in his ſhort Eſſay, *On the Cauſes of the Magnificence of Cities.* *And Sir* Walter Raleigh's.

The antient illuſtrious Cities of the *Eaſt*; of *Egypt*, *Aſia* and *Greece*; were moſt magnificently adorned with Columns, Statues, *&c.* of exquiſite Workmanſhip; which were the great Patterns for thoſe of the ſame kind afterwards at *Rome.* *The* Eaſtern Cities *ſupplied* Old Rome *with* Ornaments.

Towards the End of the *Roman* Commonwealth, when, by their Correſpondence and Conqueſts *Eaſtward*, they began to acquire a poliſhed and elegant Taſte; they, from thence, procured whatever was of excellent Workmanſhip, for adorning of *Rome.* Under the Emperors, greater Improvements were made. The polite and judicious Emperor *Auguſtus*, erected many ſuperb Ornaments, and magnificent Edifices in *Rome.* He well underſtood the Advantages and Glory reſulting therefrom. Succeeding

ceeding Emperors made farther Additions to the Beauty and Grandeur of that matchleſs City; inſomuch, that about the Beginning of the IVth Century, *Rome* was become the Admiration and Aſtoniſhment of the whole Earth. As much reſorted to, on Account of the immenſe Variety, incomparable Elegancy, and amazing Grandeur of its Ornaments and Embelliſhments, as for being the great Capital of the Univerſe! For, to ſay all in one Word,

Ancient Rome's *prodigious* Decorations.

THERE, *all* was Rapture! *All* Surprize!
Which Way ſoe'er Men turn'd their Eyes!

ROME very ſoon after, underwent a ſad Reverſe! Sack'd, ſpoil'd, defac'd, burnt, by Barbarians! And not only *Italy*, but all the reſt of *Europe*, *North* and *Weſt* of it, remained for many Centuries buried under *Gothic* Ruſticity! Neither was it 'till after the Middle of the XVth Century, that the true Taſte for *Architecture*, *Sculpture* and other fine Arts, began to be introduced, firſt into *Italy*, and afterwards into other Parts of the *Weſt*; occaſioned by the melancholly Retreat of many Men of Learning and Genius from *Conſtantinople*, at the taking of that City by the Sultan *Mahomet* II. in 1453. And they met with ſuitable Encouragement from the *Medici* Family at FLORENCE, and from other Princes and States in *Italy*.

Architecture, Sculpture, *&c. revived in the* XVth *Century.*

Mr

Mr VOLTAIRE, in the Second Volume of his *Age of* LOUIS XIV. recounting that penetrating Monarch's many wiſe Regulations for the Advancement of the Wealth and Commerce of *France*, could not forget to celebrate his Wiſdom, in ſo greatly adorning and beautifying his Capital City. "PARIS, (ſays he) 'till now," [*i. e.* 'till the Miniſtry of the Great *Colbert*] "was neither well *lighted*, *watched*, nor *cleaned*. "LOUIS provided Funds for 5000 Lamps, "to be lighted every Night: For conſtantly "cleaning and paving the Streets: For eſtabliſhing a *continual Watch*, both of *Horſe* "*and Foot*. He created a Magiſtrate, [LIEUTENANT CIVIL] "whoſe Duty was "to preſide over the Civil Government of "the City.—He alſo rebuilt two of the "City Gates, and repaired the reſt. Moſt "of the great Cities of *Europe* have ſcarcely "imitated theſe Examples, 'till long after; "and *none* have equalled them."

PARIS, *when it began to be adorned.*

Whether the laſt Aſſertion be true or falſe, is not at preſent material: But, 'tis a real and melancholly Truth, that thoſe Regulations and Decorations, have been one great Means of drawing great Sums of Money thither, from every Country in *Europe*; and more eſpecially from *England*, by the great Reſort of our Nobility and Gentry thither.

ONE INSTANCE MORE ſhall ſuffice, in farther ſupport of our general Propoſition. It ſhall be taken from the Conduct of the moſt

The laſt INSTANCE *of* VENICE.

moſt prudent and politick Republick of VENICE.

The anonymous Author of a ſmall Treatiſe, printed at PARIS, in 1729, intitled, ESSAI DE L'HISTOIRE DU COMMERCE DE VENISE, taking Notice, in his Preface, of the immenſe Damage which the ever-famous City of *Venice* ſuſtained, about 250 Years ago, from the Diſcovery made by the *Portugueſe*, of a Paſſage, by *Sea*, from *Europe* to *Eaſt-India*; whereby VENICE loſt [TO LISBON] the ineſtimable Benefit of having been the *ſole Magazine* of *Eaſt-India* Merchandize, wherewith they had, for many Ages, ſupply'd the reſt of *Chriſtendom*. Subjoins, [what is ſo much to our Purpoſe] "That the ſagacious Republick "had, however, deviſed, or found out the "Means, within her own Boſom, of re-"trieving Part of that capital Loſs; amongſt "other Things, *by the Embelliſhments of* "*that noble City, and the erecting of certain* "*extraordinary Edifices therein.*"

Thus VENICE, though much abridged of her ancient *Commerce*, *Wealth*, and *Territory*; ſtill holds up her venerable Head, with becoming Dignity. Univerſally revered, celebrated and viſited, by the Great and Opulent, from every Part of *Chriſtendom*. And, by the like Means alſo, the ſame may ſtill be ſaid of FLORENCE and GENOA; pretty much in ſimilar Circumſtances. Whilſt on the other Hand, LUBECK, the once moſt flouriſhing Emporium of the *North*;

A remarkable Contraſt *between* VENICE, FLORENCE, *and* GENOA, *on one Hand, and* LUBECK *and* ANTWERP *on the other.*

North; originally (and ſtill) the Head of the formerly renowned, commercial, and potent, (though now little more than *nominal*) HANSEATIC League; being, at preſent, under a like Declenſion of her priſtine Wealth, Commerce, and of her very great and numerous Shipping; remains at this Day, comparatively, a ſolitary, and almoſt deſerted Place, equally unfrequented by modern Travellers, as uncelebrated by Voyagers: Becauſe deſtitute of thoſe Charms which render the beforenamed Places the Delight of Mankind: Yet LUBECK is ſtill reckoned one of the neateſt old Cities of that Part of the World of the *Gothic* Taſte; but, is wanting in many of the moſt *beautiful* Ornaments neceſſary to intitle it to the Name of a fine and elegant City. The like, in ſome Meaſure, may be ſaid of ANTWERP; which, not quite ſo much as 200 Years ago, was undoubtedly the moſt flouriſhing and frequented *Emporium* in all *Europe*, beyond any Compariſon; ſince, in thoſe Days, there have been counted no fewer than 2500 Ships lying before that City together, where now not one Ship, properly ſo called is to be ſeen; nor indeed can approach.

The Application to LONDON.

It is now Time to make the intended Application of the Premiſſes, to *our own famed Metropolis.*

Our *inſular* Situation, ſo beneficial to us in ſundry other commercial and political Reſpects; may poſſibly by ſome, be judged unfavourable

unfavourable to our Scheme of making LONDON the general Reſort of the *Great*, the *Opulent*, and the *Curious*, from all Parts of the Continent. But, let it be conſidered; That I am now ſuppoſing the City and Suburbs of *London* (already *the largeſt Metropolis, and the richeſt Emporium in Chriſtendom*) to be capable, by the herein-propoſed Regulations and Decorations, of being rendered abſolutely the *moſt illuſtrious* and *magnificent*, and conſequently the *moſt alluring*, of any in all *Europe*.

A ſummary View of the Benefits which would reſult from our Scheme.

Before we enter upon thoſe Regulations and Decorations; let us firſt take a tranſient View of ſome of the moſt obvious Benefits which would neceſſarily reſult therefrom, to both *City* and *Nation*.

REPUTATION.

I. REPUTATION, ſingly conſidered, is queſtionleſs beneficial: But, altho' the Completion of our Scheme be extremely well calculated for advancing our Reputation and Glory beyond Sea; this would nevertheleſs be the leaſt of its good Conſequences.

Additional Demand for many Things.

II. By the ſuppoſed general Reſort of *Foreigners* [by which Name I hope I ſhall not be underſtood to mean either *Beggars* or *Jews*] to our Metropolis, 'tis eaſy to conceive how great the additional Demand would be, for all the various Neceſſaries, Conveniencies, and Superfluities; whether for *Nouriſhment*, *Cloathing*, *Equipages*, *Plate*, *Jewels*, *Pictures*, *Books*,

Books, *Toys*, *Medals*, &c. For all which, *London* would then undoubtedly be the general Mart and Staple.

III. Very conſiderable, alſo, would the additional Employment be of our Manufacturers, Artizans, Farmers, Shopkeepers, Labourers, &c. *Increaſe of* Manufacturers, &c.

IV. All which would neceſſarily tend to the Proſperity and Increaſe of our foreign *Commerce*, *Navigation*, and *Plantations*; and conſequently of the Number of our *Seamen*, as well as of all the various Occupations dependent on Commerce, Shipping, and Plantations. *Increaſe of* Commerce, Navigation, *and* Plantations.

V. Another obvious Conſequence from the Premiſſes, would be a proportionable Increaſe of the *Publick* Revenues; of *Cuſtoms*, *Exciſe*, &c. whereby our heavy national Debt would be the ſooner diſcharged. *Increaſe of* Revenue National.

VI. The Increaſe of the Rents of Houſes (as well as of their Number and Goodneſs) in *London*, and even of the Rents and Improvement of *Lands* in the Country, would be alſo another neceſſary Conſequence. *Increaſe of* Rents *of* Houſes *and* Lands.

VII. And, as our *Manufacturers*, *Artiſans*, *Farmers*, and *Labourers*, would find fuller Employment, both in Town and Country; this would neceſſarily leſſen our Poor-Rate, at preſent ſo exorbitant, and ſo *Decreaſe of the* Poor-Rate,

grievouſly burthenſome to the Bulk of our People.

Other Benefits neceſſarily reſulting therefrom, might be enumerated; but as thoſe already named, are more than ſufficient to excite a due Attention to our Scheme, we ſhall therefore now conſider how far it is reducible to Practice.

Removal, I. *Of* Nuiſances.

I. The very firſt Step towards rendering *London* univerſally attracting, ſhould ſurely be the abſolute Removal of every kind of *Nuiſance*; whether occaſioned from want of *Cleanneſs* and *Neatneſs*, or from any other removable Cauſe.

II. *Of* Inconveniencies *and* Inelegancies.

II. The next Step in this Gradation, ſhould be the effectual Removal of all *Inconveniencies* and *Inelegancies*; thereby contributing to the Eaſe and Accommodation of all Strangers.

III. *Of* Decorations.

III. And the third and laſt Step muſt be, The erecting and eſtabliſhing, in a *judicious* and *maſterly* Taſte, at proper Diſtances, and in the fitteſt Places both of City and Suburbs; ſuch, and ſo many grand and elegant *Ornaments* and *Embelliſhments*, agreeably diverſified, as (jointly with the Decorations, already erected and erecting, and our other various Amuſements and Entertainments) may ſpread our Fame and Glory far and wide; and thereby excite the Curioſity

ofity of Perſons of Fortune and Leiſure, to devote Part of their Time to ſo alluring a Situation.

In the Contemplation hereof, the City of LONDON, properly ſo called, (or, as comprehended under the *Lord Mayor*'s Juriſdiction) moſt juſtly claims the Precedence: Whether we conſider, 1*ſt*, Its great *Antiquity*. 2*dly*, Its tranſcendent *Dignity*, as being the moſt illuſtrious Corporation or Community in all *Europe*. The venerable Parent of all the other Parts of the great Contiguity, to which *the* SUBURBS undoubtedly owe their Original and Increaſe; and more particularly *Weſtminſter City and Liberty*: The latter of which had no Exiſtence but 200 Years ago, and the former but an inconſiderable Village, about 100 Years farther back. Or, 3*dly*, Its ſtill ſtronger Title to Pre-eminence, for its being, and having ever been, the great and principal Means of promoting our national *Wealth*, *Commerce*, and *Naval Power*; and thereby preſerving to us the very greateſt of mundane *Felicities*, *Liberty* and *Independency*, by her univerſally *extended Commerce*; her *large and numerous Shipping*, her *ſuperior Manufactures*, *manual Arts*, and other *fine Improvements*.

LONDON CITY *to have the Precedence before any other Part of the Contiguity.*

NUISANCES.

FIRST then, under the Head of NUISANCES, let me juſt hint at what ought, by

NUISANCES *particulariz'd.*

1. Naſtineſs. all Means, to be remedy'd: *Naſtineſs*, in ſome Parts of the City, as particularly at the Poſterns of ſome of the City Gates; and (what is moſt ſcandalouſly ſhameful) Ordure, in Plenty, daily ſeen at *Noon-Day* and *'Change-Time*, at the *North* Side of the *Royal-Exchange*. 'Tis, indeed, moſt ſurprizing, That nobody has thought it worth their while to *complain* of ſo *loathſome* a Nuiſance, and at a Place too, ſo much frequented by Foreigners, as well as Natives.

2. Rubbiſh, Cellar-Doors *and* Windows, *and* Steps *too far to the Foot Ways.*

2. *Rubbiſh* left in Heaps in the Streets, is a *Nuiſance* which was fatal in a late Inſtance, and is always dangerous. As are alſo, in ſome Parts, *Cellar-Doors*, *Cellar-Windows*; and in others, Stone-Steps up to Shops, and Ground-Floors, all projecting too far into the Foot-Paths.

3. Broken Pavements.

3. *Broken Pavements* have often been fatal, and are always *hazardous*, when left too long in the Streets; as is too often the Caſe, more eſpecially when ſuch Pavement happens to lie oppoſite the End or Entrance into another Street, or elſe againſt untenanted Houſes. And hereof Inſtances abound daily every where.

4. Ruinous Houſes.

4. *Ruinous Houſes*, too often permitted to remain long in that Condition, is certainly a *Nuiſance* of a ſhameful and dangerous Kind. This was, 'till lately, the Caſe of two in particular; one in *Fleet-ſtreet*, another at *Pye-Corner*;

Pye-Corner; both which remained, for many Years, a Terror to Paſſengers, both on Foot, and in Coaches! And although ſince pull'd down, they ſtill remain unbuilt, and therefore an ugly *Nuiſance*.

If the preſent Laws be inſufficient, a new one may enable the *Chamberlain* of *London*, [and the *Benches of Juſtices* in the ſeveral Suburbs] after proper Notice given to the Proprietors or Litigants, to pull down and rebuild ſuch Houſes.

5. *Sheds* for Shops, *&c.* placed againſt the Walls of Churches, even in ſome of the moſt publick Parts of the City, and where the Street happens to be too narrow, (though they were not there); as particularly at St *Dunſtan's*, *Fleet-ſtreet*; alſo at St *Antholin's*, *Budge-Row*, and St *Ethelburga*, in *Biſhopſgate-ſtreet*. Theſe are equally indecent and inconvenient.

5. Sheds *againſt* Churches.

The Negligence and Inelegance of former Times, have occaſioned ſundry other Nuiſances gradually to grow up. Such, for Inſtance, are certain *Sheds*, ſtanding before Houſes in the open Streets, as at *Weſt Smithfield*, near the Bars, and in ſome Parts of the *Suburbs*. Theſe, not only contract and darken the Streets, and have an ugly Appearance; but may hereafter, probably, (from the ſame ſort of Negligence) be built up higher, ſo as to block up, and darken the Houſes behind them. This might probably have

Sheds *ſtanding in Streets before Houſes.*

have been the Caſe of ſundry Streets, now built on both Sides, though ſtill retaining the Name of *Rows*.

From the very ſame Cauſe, even in our own Time, proceeds the unaccountable Liberty permitted to be taken, in the rebuilding of Houſes (more eſpecially in the Suburbs), of advancing their Front-Walls ſeveral Inches [ſome more, ſome leſs] into the Street, beyond their old Foundations, and the Front-Walls of their next Neighbours: Of this there are many Inſtances in ſundry Parts, as in *Weſtminſter*, properly ſo called; St *Martin's-Lane*; the *Strand* fronting *Durham-Yard*; St *Giles's-in-the-Fields*; *Lincoln's-Inn-Fields*, (*North* Side) *&c.* and many more in the *Eaſtern* and *Southern* Suburbs, as being leſs regarded. Nor is *Pater-noſter-Row* itſelf without a very late Encroachment of this Sort, though almoſt imperceptible to common Obſervers.

Rebuilt Houſes advancing too far into the Street.

By this ſurreptitious Way of contracting and darkening the Streets, the Publick has long been injured. And this Evil having been gradually, and as it were inſenſibly increaſing for perhaps ſome Hundreds of Years in *London*, it is high Time to put an abſolute Stop to it; and, were it practicable, even a *Reviſion* or *Retroſpect*, is much to be wiſhed for.

All which *Nuiſances* might be effectually cured, were there to be a *Standing Board* of Commiſſioners, [and none more proper than thoſe for regulating *Hackney Coaches*] to

A ſtanding Board of Commiſſioners *for rectifying of Abuſes and Nuiſances.*

to be veſted with ample Powers for that Purpoſe, to ſuperintend the Streets in the Suburbs, and for rectifying of all Abuſes and Encroachments. A Quorum, or Committee of them to ſit daily.—To have ſufficient Appointments,—and to be of a competent Number.—To be abſolutely under the annual Inſpection of Parliament, and (in the Receſs of Parliament) of the Judges. And for the City of *London*, a Committee of the *Common-Council* might manage well enough, (under the ſame Comptrol) having a reaſonable Allowance for their extraordinary Trouble.

The driving of live Bullocks *in the Streets.*

The driving of *live* Bullocks, twice in every Week, through the Streets from *Smithfield* Market, is another *dangerous Nuiſance*, gradually increaſing, as the Town grows larger. Moſt certainly, the ſad, and too frequent Accidents of broken Limbs, and ſometimes the loſs of Lives, make a Remedy much wanted. Poſſibly, a Law to cauſe all *Bullocks* to be killed without the Town may be attended with Objections, though, perhaps, not unſurmountable.

Mad Dogs.

Much has been ſaid and printed of late, concerning the *horrible Nuiſance of* MAD-DOGS; and many Lives have thereby been loſt in a few Years. Yet, thoſe who alone have it in their Power to conſider of, and provide a Remedy, don't ſeem yet to be quite awake. 'Tis, indeed, remarkably too much

much *our Way*, in many Caſes, to ſuffer even dangerous *Nuiſances* and Calamities to go unredreſſed, until ſome very intereſting Diſaſter makes the Scales fall from our Eyes. Poſſibly this moſt ſhocking of Evils may be left ſtill to go on, until *ſome very eminent or illuſtrious Perſonage* (which God of his great Mercy forbid) ſhall happen to fall a Prey to its relentleſs Fury. A *preventive Remedy*, of a *Tax on Dogs*, has been propoſed to the Publick; and even ſuppoſing that ſuch a Tax ſhould not amount to much more than the Charge of collecting it; yet, if it ſhall prevent [as it certainly would] the roaming of Dogs about the Streets and Fields, 'tis ſurely highly neceſſary to make the Experiment, without any longer Delay.

Beggars *and* Vagrants.

The Swarms of BEGGARS and VAGRANTS, in our Streets and Highways, is a moſt diſgraceful and baneful Nuiſance; more eſpecially conſidering our enormous POOR-RATE. A diligent and intelligent Magiſtrate lately offered a Scheme to the Publick, *for employing the Able, and ſupporting the diſabled Poor*; which, many think, with ſome ſmall Amendments, would anſwer the two great Ends, of leſſening a very burthenſome Tax, and of clearing our Streets and Roads of a Set of Wretches, many of whom are deſperate Thieves, Robbers, and Murderers.

Could a Committee of either Houſe of Parliament be better employed for *one*, or even

even for *two* intire Seſſions, than in inveſtigating of this Evil alone, and in providing an adequate Remedy? Theſe two laſt named Nuiſances, though not abſolutely local, do yet more peculiarly affect our great Metropolis, than they do any other Part of the Kingdom.

The Immorality *and* Impiety *of the lower People.*

The Deluge of Prophaneneſs and Impiety, that (I fear) at preſent, more than ever, overſpreads our Metropolis, is Matter of the greateſt Concern to all good People; and calls loudly for the Interpoſition of Authority, and the united Counſels and Endeavours of wiſe and good Men. Foreign Proteſtants, coming hither, are extremely ſhock'd at the Wickedneſs, openly and daringly practiſed by our lower People. This, if longer ſuffered to go unremedy'd, it is greatly to be feared, will draw down upon us Vengeance from Heaven. What horrible Imprecations and Prophaneneſs do we every Hour hear uttered in our Streets? and yet too few ſeem duly to regard it. And what, in this and many other Caſes, ought in Duty to be every Body's Buſineſs, is in Effect *nobody's at all.* In this Reſpect, like the fooliſh Ship-Paſſenger, who when deſired by the Sailors to help them in a Storm, refuſed it, *becauſe he was only a Paſſenger.*

Inconveniencies *and* Inelegancies.

Of INCONVENIENCIES *and* INELEGANCIES *in the City of* LONDON.

Narrow Entrances into ſome good Streets may be widen'd.

The Inelegance of old Times, before the great Increaſe of our Commerce, and when Wheel-Carriages were very inconſiderable, having, as before noted, occaſioned many Encroachments on our Streets and Paſſages; thereby rendering them too *narrow* and *dark:* Moſt of thoſe Inconveniencies are at preſent rather to be lamented than remedy'd. Yet at the narrow Entrances into ſome good Streets, (as for Inſtance, *Lime-Street*, and *Mark Lane*,) the demoliſhing of *three* or *four* Houſes would, in a great Degree, cure this Evil.

The Lord-Mayor's Man-ſion-Houſe.

'Tis in vain *now* to complain of bringing the *Lord-Mayor*'s Manſion-Houſe too forward into the Street, even to the incommoding of *Foot-Paſſengers*, as well as Wheel-Carriages. Nevertheleſs, I am humbly of Opinion, that by a few more Regulations, this ſuperb Edifice, with all its Faults, [ſo freely animadverted on, both by the *learned* and *unlearned*] may *(even in ſpite of Criticiſm)* be render'd, in a good Degree, a real Ornament to the City.

Above all Things it will be needful, as ſoon as poſſible, to remove that intire Row of old Houſes, fronting it's *Weſt* Side, between the *Poultry* and the Corner of *Buckler's-Bury*,

ler's-Bury; whereby, not only a more beautiful *Side-View* of it will be exhibited; but likewiſe there will be good Room made for Coaches to ſtand, and alſo to retire that Way, on more publick Days.

On the *Eaſt* Side of this Structure, the Paſſage has already been widened, and thereby rendered ſomewhat more airy and lightſome, where moſt wanted. Yet, partly for Uniformity's Sake, but chiefly for more Room for Carriages into, and from *Lombard-Street*, *Cornhill*, *Threadneedle-Street*, and *Prince's-Street*, it were much to be wiſhed, that the two Corner-Houſes of this End of *Cornhill* could be demoliſhed; and that the *Weſt* Walls of the next two Houſes, which would then look toward the *Poultry*, could be caſed with Stone in a good Taſte, which would have a pretty Effect.

Since we are upon the *Manſion-Houſe*, permit me to offer one *internal* Ornament, equally honourable and uſeful to the whole City, *viz.*

A Mercantile Library *in the* Manſion-Houſe.

That as there is now found to be *more* Room in it than the Lord Mayors have need of, a convenient Apartment be allotted for a *publick* MERCANTILE LIBRARY, to be conſulted by all the Citizens, as occaſion may require.

I need not, I cannot inform you, Sir, of the various Branches ſuch a Library ſhould conſiſt of. Yet for the Sake of ſome, it may not be amiſs to give a Summary of them.

I. All the Statutes, and alſo the principal Hiſtories of *Britain*, *Ireland*, and our Colonies, with their Geography and Itinerary Deſcriptions.

II. The Hiſtories, Geography, and Topography, of all the other Parts of the Univerſe; with Maps, Globes, and Sea-Charts; as alſo the principal Voyagers.

III. A Collection of whatever has been written, in any Language, on Navigation, Commerce, Manufactures, Plantations, Fiſheries, Mines, Metals, Minerals, Gems, Foſſils, Drugs, Agriculture, Gardening, Mannual-Arts, *&c.*

IV. The Charters, By-Laws, Uſages, and Hiſtories of *London*; and alſo of all home and foreign Sea-Ports, and of other trading Corporations at home and abroad.

V. Reports, Law-Deciſions, *&c.* relating to every Branch of Commerce, Navigation, Manufactures, Inſurances, *&c.*

VI. All the particular Rules and Uſages of the *Britiſh* Revenues of the *Cuſtoms*, *Exciſe*, &c.—With whatever elſe may relate to Commercial Affairs, in the moſt extenſive Senſe.

Were once a Beginning made to ſuch a Library, it would, in all Probability, ſoon ſwell

ſwell to a conſiderable Bulk, both by Donations from the *Living*, and Legacies of the *Dead*. On this Suppoſition, the Author of theſe Pages will engage to bequeath ſuch a Set of *old*, *ſcarce*, *curious*, and *valuable* Tracts and Treatiſes, on the Hiſtory, *&c.* of Commerce, [the Product of many Years Collections] as he humbly conceives are not to be found in many private Hands.

As ſuch a publick Repoſitory of MERCANTILE KNOWLEDGE would be the firſt of its Kind probably in all *Europe*, it would be therefore the more worthy of the firſt Commercial City in the Univerſe.

And with reſpect to a ſuitable Salary for the *Librarian*, I make very little doubt of finding the Means for it, were but once ſo noble a Deſign ſet on foot.

But to return from this Digreſſion, if it may properly be termed ſuch.

The BANK-OFFICE is a good Houſe, but ſituated in too narrow a Street; where a perpetual Conflux of Wheel-Carriages of all kinds, occaſions very frequent Obſtructions to Buſineſs. This might, in a good Degree, be remedy'd, if that prudent Corporation would purchaſe and demoliſh four Houſes fronting their great Gate; whereby a good Coach and Foot-Way might be opened directly from thence into *Cornhill*, which would likewiſe open an advantagious View of the fine Front of that Structure. *The* BANK.

Some

City-Gates. Some of the CITY-GATES (though well enough deſigned for the Times they were built in) have ſince been permitted to be encroached on, and defaced; partly by private adjoining Buildings, and partly alſo by certain City-Officers living over them, for whoſe Accommodation ſome of their original Poſterns or Foot-Ways were, 'till very lately, ſhut up. When we ſee on the fine *North* Front of *Alderſgate*, one of it's two Corner Towers raiſed ſeveral Feet higher than the other, [*purely for private Accommodation*] and on it's *South* Side read an Inſcription, telling, That *it was repaired and* BEAUTIFYED, *Anno* 1739. This ſurely gives a mean Idea of the Taſte of thoſe concerned.

Want of Lamps *in ſome of the Non-free Parts.* The preſent beautiful Manner of lighting the City of *London* in the Night, is much for its Honour and Safety. Yet 'tis ſurely unaccountable, that there ſhould ſtill be found circumſcribed within its proper Limits, certain large Diſtricts, being *Non-free* Precincts; ſuch as St *Martin's Le Grand*, and St *Bartholomew*, or *Cloth-Fair* Precincts; which are not bound (by the Laws for lighting the City) to put up any Lamps at all. In the large Diſtrict of St *Bartholomew the Great*, there is very little Light in *Duck-Lane*, and in ſome of the Streets of *Cloth-Fair*; ſo that the Citizens are forced to grope their Way through Darkneſs, in going from one Part of the City into another.

And

And remarkable it is, that the *North*, or *farther Side* of *Long-Lane* (leading from *Smithfield* to *Alderſgate-Street*) has regular Lamps in it, becauſe within the Freedom; and yet the *South* Side of that Lane (*though nearer* to the City) has not one Lamp in it, becauſe in the Precinct of *Cloth-Fair*, without the Freedom.

City-Watch.

The CITY-WATCH is ſtill very inſuffi-cient, for want of ſtouter and better conducted Men. It were well too, if Part of them were conſtantly ſtationed in the Day-Time, in different Parts of the City; whereby Mobs, Riots, Robberies, and Fires, would be more effectually prevented and ſuppreſſed.

St Paul's Church-yard.

'Tis doubtleſs a great Inconveniency, that only the *South* Side of St *Paul's Church-yard* is paſſable for *Wheel-Carriages*. This was one of the many Overſights at Re-building the City, after the Conflagration in 1666, but is, at preſent, extremely difficult, if not impoſſible, to be remedy'd; unleſs the Incloſure on the *North* Side of that Cemetery could bear being contracted ſo far as to the Foot of the Steps going up to the *North* Gate. Yet, if the firſt *five* or *ſix* Houſes on the *North* Side of this Churchyard, and *South* Side of *Pater-noſter-Row*, next to *Cheapſide*, could be purchaſed and removed, it would not only be an Advantage to Wheel-Carriages, going into and from *Cheapſide*,

Cheapſide, but would likewiſe exhibit from thence, a finer View of that noble Cathedral, as well as of the herein-after propoſed *Equeſtrian Statue* where *Cheapſide* Conduit formerly ſtood.

By the abſolute Removal of the beforenamed, and ſuch like *Nuiſances*, *Inconveniencies*, and *Inelegancies*; we ſhall have gone a conſiderable Way towards the attaining of our propoſed End. It ſtill remains, that ſuch new *Ornaments*, *Decorations*, and *Embelliſhments* be propoſed, (both for City and Suburbs) as, jointly with the beforementioned Regulations, and the many elegant Amuſements always to be found in *London*, may attract the general Admiration.

But here I previouſly diſclaim all Pretenſions to a maſterly, or dictatorial Skill, in reſpect to the Propriety of any peculiar Species of Ornament, for this or that particular Part of the Town. And if I ſhall happen herein to propoſe any ſuch, I deſire it may always be underſtood to be under the Correction of, and with profound Submiſſion to, the ſuperior Judgments of the infallible Critics.

I. *With Regard to the* CITY *of* LONDON.

I conceive it hardly poſſible for a Perſon of Diſcernment, to traverſe ſo *opulent*, *extenſive*, and *populous* a City, without remarking the extreme want of *Taſte* and *Elegance* in former Times.

'Tis, indeed, ſcarcely to be credited by ſuch as had never ſeen it; and yet had heard, that it contained about 200,000 Souls, within its own proper Pomerium, the *Bars*:—That it was the greateſt Emporium in *Chriſtendom*,—and has been for near a Thouſand Years the Capital of the *Britiſh* Empire.—Were they notwithſtanding to be told, that in all this ſo renowned a City, there is not ſo much as one ſingle *Equeſtrian Statue*.—Outdone, in this Reſpect, by *Edinburgh*, *Dublin*, *Briſtol*, *Hull*, and *Glaſgow*, at Home; and by many more beyond Sea.—Nor, indeed, any *Pedeſtrian Statue* nor *Piazza*, but at the *Royal-Exchange*.—Not one *Pyramid*, *Obeliſk*, *Portico*, nor *Triumphal Arch* [excepting that of *Temple-Bar*]. No publick Fountain, and but one ſingle Column; which, however, muſt be allowed to be the fineſt in *Europe*. Notwithſtanding all which, her Citizens are generally allowed to be elegant in their

Ornaments *for the City of* LONDON.

Houſes, Dreſs, Equipages, Country-Seats, Gardens, *&c.*

Greater Ornaments *for the City.*

The City, it is true, has not ſo many fine Openings, and ſpacious Streets, as are to be found in the *Weſtern* Suburbs. Nevertheleſs, there are therein ſundry Places which are extremely proper for Ornaments of the grandeſt Sort. Such are the broadeſt Part of *Holborn* near the Bars; *Weſt-Smithfield*, *Moorfields*, *Biſhopſgate-Street* near the Bars, and *Whitechapel*; at each of which Places (and perhaps at ſome others) there is good room for a lofty *Column*, *Obeliſk*, or *Pyramid*. At many other Parts of our City, there is convenient Room for *Equeſtrian* and *Pedeſtrian Statues*, ſmaller Columns, Pyramids, *&c.* without interrupting either Wheel-Carriages, or Foot-Paſſengers; and would be to the inconceivable Grandeur and Beauty of our Metropolis. What is there that can poſſibly be *now* ſaid, in Vindication of the wild Oppoſition, ſome Years ago made, to the Propoſal for erecting, by *private Subſcription*, an *Equeſtrian Statue* at the *Weſt* End of *Cheapſide*, where ſuch an Ornament would have the nobleſt Effect of any Part of the City? The Conduits of *Cheap*, *Aldermanbury*, *Cripplegate*, and *Snow-hill*, were at that Time juſtly enough removed, as being neither ornamental nor uſeful; but ſurely ſomewhat of the former kind might and ſhould have been placed in their Room, had there been any thing like Taſte at all.

—— In a great, populous, and capital City like ours, all its *Grandeur*, Decorations, and Ornaments, are by no Means to be confined to, or near its Center only; as in ſmaller Cities may well enough be done. In ours, true Taſte and Judgment require a great Number and Variety of Ornaments to be diſperſed, at proper Diſtances, all over it. Neither if poſſible, ought even the meaneſt and remoteſt Suburb to be intirely without ſome Ornaments, though of a leſſer kind. Hereby the Admiration of Beholders would be greatly excited; and (as before remarked of ancient *Rome* in its Glory) *Surprize* and *Rapture*, *Wonder* and *Amazement*, would ſpread our Fame to the uttermoſt Parts of the Earth.

Places for leſſer Ornaments in the City.

How many more Places are there not, beſides thoſe already named, even in the City, where various and elegant Devices and Ornaments might well be placed to great Advantage? Such as at the *Eaſt* End of St *Dunſtan's*, *Fleet-ſtreet*;—at *Fleet-Bridge*,—the *North-Eaſt* and *North-Weſt* Corners of St *Paul's Church-yard* within the Palliſadoes,—the broadeſt Part of *Alderſgate-ſtreet*,—at the Pump in *Red-Croſs-ſtreet*,—the Quarters of *Moor-fields*,—the *Weſt* End of *Old Broad-ſtreet*,—the Pump in *Biſhopſgate-ſtreet* within,—The Pump within *Aldgate*,—the broadeſt Part of the *Minories*,—the broadeſt Part of *Crutched-Friars*, on *Tower-Hill*,—and on *London-Bridge*. At all or moſt of which

Places, various Decorations may well be made, without incommoding either Carriages or Foot-Paſſengers.

Two Opportunities loſt of adorning the City.

Porticos and *Piazzas* are not now to be expected in the City; where indeed, two proper Opportunities for ſuch kind of Ornaments have been ſupinely neglected. The firſt, and by much the more noble Opportunity, was after the great Conflagration in 1666, when Sir *Chriſtopher Wren*'s excellent Plan for its re-building, was unhappily rejected. The other was lately, when after the Fire in *Cornhill*, in 1748; the Ground of a large Opening thereby made, in the very Center of the City, might have been purchaſed, and a fine Piazza built round the Sides of it, for Shops, *&c.* fronting the *Royal-Exchange*; whereby that moſt publick Part of the City would have been rendered more lightſome, airy, and magnificent, and more Room would have been made for Coaches to ſtand, in the buſy Hours of the Day, which at preſent block up the Streets ſo much, as to annoy Paſſengers, and obſtruct Buſineſs.

Triumphal Arches *at the Bars,*

The Ornaments commonly denominated *Triumphal Arches*, may be erected to wonderful Advantage, at all the other great Entrances into the City, called the *Bars*, as is long ſince done at *Temple-Bar*. As thoſe Bars have, for ſome Centuries paſt, been the extreme Boundaries of the City, it is apparent

apparent how proper and expedient ſuch arched Gates, properly ornamented, would be, inſtead of the preſent dirty Poſts and Chains; and how greatly they would add to the Grandeur of our noble City: More eſpecially at the five following Places, *viz.* the *Bars* of *Holborn*, *Smithfield*, *Alderſgate*, *Biſhopſgate*, and *Whitechapel*. At the more obſcure Limits of the City, in the Bye-Streets and Alleys, a Couple of *Stone Piers*, with the City's Arms on them, may be ſufficient; and where, in ſuch Places, the Limits advance farther on one Side of the Way than on the oppoſite Side, *one Pier* at each Limit is enough.

City-Halls.

Moſt of the Halls of Companies are pent up in dirty Bye-Lanes and Alleys; and too many of them are in a bad Taſte. That of the *Ironmongers*, of late, is truly an Ornament to the whole City, as well as to the handſome Street it ſtands in. It would add much to their Beauty, if they could be all caſed with Stone; and ſome of them [as thoſe of the *Stationers*, *Sadlers*, *Mercers*, *Merchant-Taylors*, &c.] might, by demoliſhing one or two Houſes, be laid open into the more publick Streets, to very great Advantage.

Motives for more Openings *in the City.*

The vaſt Increaſe, and the fine Improvements of the *Weſtern* Suburbs, chiefly within the laſt forty Years, ought certainly to rouze the Emulation of the Citizens of *London*,

London, to make their utmoſt Efforts for rendering the City as exquiſitely *clean*, *neat*, *convenient*, *healthy*, and *beautiful* as is poſſible.

For although it is not *now* to be expected, that the City ſhould (as of old) be the Town-Reſidence of the *Court*, the *Nobility* and *principal Gentry*; yet, for the Sake of *Foreigners*, as well as for keeping her own over-grown Sons from removing *Weſtward* (for what they call a finer Air); or, in other Words, for the ſolid Intereſt and Glory of the City. Every practicable Means ſhould be uſed for making as many new Openings as poſſible, and for improving and embelliſhing the old ones; for pleaſant and airy Habitations for Merchants and Gentlemen of Taſte.

Were the cloſe and ſhabby Courts and Alleys fronting *London-Wall* (near *Moorgate*) to be demoliſhed, and the Ground built up into three Sides of a ſpacious Quadrangle, the fourth Side next the City-Wall to remain unbuilt; a great Number of ſtately Houſes might be erected thereon, all, or moſt of which would have airy Openings backwards, looking into the *Drapers* and *Carpenters* Gardens, *&c.*

I have often marvelled, that ſo fine a Spot as where the Brokers of Houſhold Goods live, in *Lower Moorfields*, has not long ſince been converted to a better Purpoſe, *viz.* for Merchants Houſes; it being but a little Diſtance from the *Exchange*, and in full as good

good an Air as any Part of the new Improvements at *Weſtminſter*. And why may not the Sides of the adjoining Burying-Ground be alſo built round, for the ſame End; and a Place, farther off, be aſſigned for the Interment of *Lunaticks?* The like may be ſaid of that, at preſent, dirty Opening in *Duke's-Place*; lying convenient enough for River Buſineſs. Were the half-deſerted, and narrow Lanes and Courts of *Black-Friars* Precinct, and the yet more miſerable ones of *White-Friars*, both demoliſhed; on each Place there might be a handſome Square erected; airy Streets, opening four ſeveral Ways; particularly to the *Thames*, to *Ludgate-ſtreet*, the *Temple*, and *Fleet-ſtreet*, in a higher and much better Air than thoſe lately erected near *Weſtminſter-Bridge*.

A commodious Manner of Re-building Houſes recommended.

It would contribute much to the Beauty, Lightſomeneſs, and Grandeur of the City, if a Manner of Re-building their Houſes, pretty much fallen into lately, could be made univerſal, at leaſt in the principal Streets, *viz.* The placing their new front Walls ſo far back from their old Foundations, as to admit of *Iron-Rails* before them, on the Ground of the ſaid old Foundations; their new Ground-Floors being likewiſe very commodiouſly raiſed ſome Steps above the Street. By this Method the Streets would be rendered ſo much wider, and the Houſes ſafer from Thieves and Mobs, without any Inconveniency

convenience to Shops or Warehouſes; as is experienced at that fine Pile of Buildings whereon the *New Exchange* in the *Strand* formerly ſtood.

Signs *and* Sign-Poſts *regulated.*

Another Regulation would (I conceive) contribute not a little to the Lightſomeneſs and Uniformity of the Streets, *viz.*

That, whereas, many Signs and Sign-Poſts are allowed to be made much larger, and more prominent than others; whereby they obſcure, not only their next Neighbours, but do alſo darken the Streets. 1*ſt.* Let therefore, all Signs for the future, be confined to the Dimenſion of (ſuppoſe) *two Foot Square.* 2*dly.* Let them all project exactly alike into the Street. 3*dly.* Let every other Sign be exactly its own Dimenſions, either higher or lower than thoſe next on each Side of it. By this plain and eaſy Regulation, there would be ſeen, on each Side of the Street, a double Row of uniform Signs in two ſtreight Lines; whereby alſo, the Streets would be actually lighter, and would appear broader and more beautiful than at preſent.

A New STONE-BRIDGE.

But beyond all the Regulations and Decorations hitherto treated of, none can compare with the laſt that I ſhall mention, either for the *Conveniency*, *Ornament*, or *ſubſtantial Advantage* it would be of to the City of *London*, ſeparately conſidered. *A New* Stone-Bridge *abſolutely requiſite from the City into* Southwark.

It is what many Well-wiſhers to the City (by Way of *Retaliation*, or rather of *Self-Preſervation)* begin to think no leſs than the *abſolute Neceſſity* of erecting *A New Additional* STONE-BRIDGE croſs the *Thames*, *ſomewhere within the Liberty of the City*. And every Conſideration whatever, directs us to the only proper Place in the whole City for it, *viz.* at the Mouth of FLEET-DITCH; which, when arched over for that Purpoſe, will make a more open, ſpacious, and commodious Way to and from ſuch NEW BRIDGE, than either of the preſent Bridges can boaſt of; or indeed, than any Part of the City or Suburbs can equal.

I ſhall, as briefly as is poſſible, enumerate ſome of the Benefits of ſuch a Bridge.

I. IN POINT of GRANDEUR and ORNAMENT, nothing can equal ſuch a Structure, erected in ſo advantageous a Situation. It would be near upon, though not quite in, the Mid-way between the other two Bridges; whereby Uniformity would be joined to *The various Benefits of ſuch a New Bridge.*

Beauty and Magnificence. And without detracting from *Weſtminſter-Bridge*, this may undoubtedly be made to exceed it, as much in Beauty and Ornament, as it would in all the other following Reſpects.

II. With Regard to *Conveniency* and *Accommodation*, SUCH a Paſſage croſs the River, from *the* VERY CENTER *of the great Contiguity*, would very much accommodate the greateſt Part of the Town; and whenever this comes to be built, it will then only be the *extreme Weſt* and *Eaſt* Ends of the Town, for which the preſent two Bridges will be more commodious.

Our propoſed Bridge will bring Carriages and Paſſengers, by the Way of *Gravel-Lane*, in *Southwark*, directly (and by a ſhorter Courſe than from either of the other two Bridges) into and from the very Middle of St *George's-Fields*; wherein fine Roads are already made, for a Paſſage to the Counties *South* of the *Thames*; from which Countries, to this Side of the *Thames*, it would be well ſituate for the great *North-Weſt*, *Iriſh* and *Northern* Roads, through ſpacious Streets, already well ſupplied with Inns, Livery-Stables, and all other Conveniencies.

III. With Reſpect to the peculiar Advantages which ſuch a Bridge would bring to the City of *London*, ſeparately conſidered.

It ought here previouſly to be conſidered, that at preſent the City has the juſteſt Grounds for being alarmed at the Schemes already laid, and laying, for *new and magnificent Streets*, *new Inns*, *Stage Coaches*, *Livery-Stables*, and *Trades of all Kinds*, in the Neighbourhood of *Weſtminſter-Bridge*.

And it is of the laſt Importance for the City of *London*, ſeriouſly to reflect, That when thoſe Schemes, which are now little more than *Embrios*, ſhall come to perfect Maturity, it will *then* be too late to hope for bringing back thoſe Advantages into the City, which may *now* be effected by this propoſed Bridge, if very ſpeedily reſolved on.

For the centrical Situation of it, would neceſſarily draw thither moſt of the heavy Carriages, as well as Travellers, from *Weſtminſter-Bridge*; which *then* would have little more left than what it has gained, either from the Ferries above it, or from the Bridges of *Fulham* and *Kingſton*; and I may add alſo, from the many ſupernumerary Paſſengers (if I may ſo term them) going for mere Pleaſure over it, who but for that Amuſement, would not croſs the River at all.

Thus, by the happy Situation of our propoſed Bridge, *one Part* of the City of *London*, and alſo of the Borough of *Southwark*, will recover and preſerve, what *Weſtminſter* is gradually taking, and will farther continue to take, from *another Part* of each of them.

It may alſo well merit the City's Conſideration, That, as hereby there would be three Bridges * leading to ſo many fine and much frequented Roads, it muſt needs happen, ſooner or later, that *St George's-Fields* will gradually be built up into Streets; which will not only render the whole Contiguity, on that Side of the River, more compact and uniform, but will neceſſarily increaſe the Value of the City's Eſtate in and near thoſe Fields.

Moreover, the propoſed Bridge may, and very probably will, hereafter prove an eminent Benefit to both *London* and *Southwark*, in a Caſe that may happen ſooner than perhaps is generally imagined. For if *London-Bridge* be, as many think, much decayed, after ſtanding 500 Years. Any great Alteration in it, either from a diſcovered Defect in any Part of it, or from a Scheme, much mentioned of late, of leſſening the Number of its too low and narrow Arches, may require it to be ſhut up for a conſiderable Time. On which Suppoſition, the great Uſefulneſs of our now propoſed Bridge will appear obvious to every one.

In every Light, therefore, it is evident, that the City of *London* will be greatly benefited by ſuch a Bridge; the Expence where-

* The City of *Florence*, though not near ſo large as our City, has no fewer than Four fine Stone Bridges over their River. And *Paris* thrice as many over the *Seine*.

of

of (too) I have good Ground to conclude, will be conſiderably leſs than was that of *Weſtminſter*; not only by reaſon that ours will be about 100 Foot ſhorter than it, and that ſome Overſights in the other may be well avoided in ours; but likewiſe, becauſe the Paſſages wanted (on each Side the River) will be fewer, much ſhorter, and leſs chargeable.

As for any particular *Objections* to the erecting of our propoſed Bridge; there are in Truth, ſcarcely *Any* worth anſwering. *Objections anſwered, as to this New Bridge.*

1. Recent Experience has removed an *old* Objection, of the ſuppoſed Danger from the Tides, or from any *Fall* at the Arches, provided they are conſtructed in the Manner of *Weſtminſter-Bridge*; and this is confirmed by an actual Survey of the River and its Bed, very lately made.

2. As to the Damage which it may poſſibly be ſuppoſed would accrue to *old London-Bridge*, and the Paſſages to it, from our propoſed Bridge; let it be but duly and calmly conſidered, that in the End (though by ſlower Degrees) the ſaid old Bridge and Paſſages will undoubtedly be damaged much more by the Bridge at *Weſtminſter*, if our propoſed Bridge be not ſpeedily erected; and this too, without the leaſt Benefit to any other Part, either of the City of *London*, or Borough of *Southwark*. As for any Hurt

to

to the Watermen by this Bridge, a Compenſation is eaſily given, if found needful.

3. *Laſtly*, In almoſt every *new* Deſign of this Kind, how beneficial ſoever it may be to the Publick in general; *ſome Parts of the Town* muſt unavoidably ſuſtain Damage, whilſt *other Parts* will reap ſome new Advantages therefrom. Objections therefore of this Kind, generally prove *more* than they ſhould, or than they were intended to prove, *viz. That all Improvements had better be let alone.* And that, as our Anceſtors, in old Times, made ſhift to live without other Cloathing than *the Skins of Beaſts*; and with no better Habitations than thoſe of the wild *Indians* of *America*, until the *Romans* came amongſt them.—Nor had they *any Bridges at all*, 'till much later.—That as *they* had no Lanthorns, 'till the Reign of the Great *Afred*.—And that as not only their private Houſes, but even Churches and Palaces, were of no better Materials than Boards and Clay, 'till after the *Norman* Conqueſt; neither had we any Stone-Bridge croſs the *Thames*, 'till King *John*'s Time.—And *Laſtly*, that as, 'till very lately, the *Weſt End* of the Town did very well without a Bridge at *Weſtminſter*, how beautiful and commodious ſoever it is now found to be, *We* may therefore, do well enough without the propoſed *third Bridge*; notwithſtanding all the before-named plauſible Advantages. But ſurely this ſort of Reaſoning will paſs

no

no where; and leaſt of all with *the Citizens of London*, for whoſe laſting Benefit, as well as Glory, the Bridge now in Queſtion is principally and eminently ſuited; and to whoſe moſt ſerious Conſideration, therefore, the whole is ſubmitted, without farther Enlargement.

Two general Objections to this whole Plan anſwered.

I have now gone through all the Regulations and Decorations which ſeem'd neceſſary for the *City of London*, as comprehended under the *Lord-Mayor*'s Juriſdiction; the Proſperity and Glory whereof, I freely own I had principally in View, in framing my whole Plan.

Two general Objections, however, may poſſibly be made to the whole Scheme, *viz.* 1*ſt*. Its being too *extenſive*. And 2*dly*. Too *expenſive*.

As to its being too extenſive, I confeſs I am ſo far from thinking ſo, that I heartily wiſh more Ornaments and Decorations could be placed in it, conſiſtent with its preſent Condition. Since nothing can ſo effectually captivate Beholders as the almoſt infinite Variety of ſuch Beauties. It were alſo much to be wiſhed, that ſeveral more new Openings could be made, were it not for the immenſe Expence they would occaſion. Such for Inſtance, would be, 1*ſt*. The Removal of the intire Row on the *North* Side of St *Paul's Church-yard*, up to *Cheapſide*. 2. The intire Iſland of Houſes, from *Caſtle-Alley*, on the *Weſt* Side of the *Royal Exchange*,

change, down to the *Manſion-Houſe*; whereby a grand Opening would be made, ſo as to lay open the *Weſt* Side of the *Royal-Exchange*, to be ſeen from the *Poultry*. Other Parts, more eſpecially near the *Cuſtom-Houſe*, are much too narrow for the vaſt Reſort of Carriages neceſſarily wanted there; which might well have been remedy'd after the Conflagration in 1666, but ſeems now quite impracticable. I have, therefore, offered as few Alterations of this Kind, as I judged barely conſiſtent with my general Plan, ſo often mentioned.

2. As to the other ſuppoſed Objection, of our Plan's being too expenſive; there will ſeem to be as little Weight in this, as in the foregoing one, if we do but conſider, that there is certainly a very wide Difference between the Importance of *Weſtminſter*, and that of the City of *London*, to the Publick. And yet the Legiſlature, not only granted *Weſtminſter* ſeveral Lotteries *for their new Bridge*, and the making of their *new fine Streets and Openings*; but even afterwards, in the Time of an expenſive War, granted them a Sum annually, for ſeveral Years, out of the national Supplies. And can any one ſo much as doubt, that if the *Citizens of London* will perfectly unite in their Application to the Legiſlature, they could poſſibly fail of Succeſs; more eſpecially when, if Men will judge right, whatever is beneficial to the City, is generally ſo to the whole Kingdom.

LOTTERIES are of late much cried down, and perhaps with good Reaſon, when granted without a very neceſſary Occaſion. But ſurely, for ſo reputable, ſo honourable and beneficial a Purpoſe as this is, a Lottery may very juſtly be deemed, not only tolerable, but *laudable:* Unleſs the Legiſlature ſhould rather chuſe to apply a yearly Sum (in Lieu of Lotteries) for the beforenamed great and good Purpoſes.

By either of theſe Methods (for I hope no other Method, more burthenſome on the Citizens, will ever be propoſed) all the moſt neceſſary and expenſive Decorations may be gradually defrayed. Such as, firſt of all, the *Bridge*; a lofty Column in *Smithfield*,—another in *Moorfields*,—an *Equeſtrian Statue* in *Cheapſide*,—another on *Tower-hill*,—the five propoſed arched Gates at the *Bars*, and the Houſes to be purchaſed for widening the Streets.

As for the leſſer Ornaments, in the other Places beforenamed, though by all Means proper to be erected; yet I can't help thinking, that there is ſtill Publick-Spirit enough remaining amongſt the Citizens of *London*, to effect them by private Subſcriptions, or Contributions alone. Thus, for inſtance, it can ſcarce be doubted, that the wealthy Inhabitants in the near Neighbourhoods of the reſpective Places, where Pedeſtrian Statues, leſſer Columns, Obeliſks, Pyramids, and ſuch-like other pretty Devices are pro-

poſed to be placed, could eaſily, and would ſubſcribe enough for ſuch Purpoſes; when a Beginning is once made, by a few leading Gentlemen of each reſpective Neighbourhood or Ward.

An earneſt Exhortation to Publick-Spiritedneſs in the Citizens of London.

Is there then any Time to be loſt; or is not this very Seaſon abſolutely the moſt proper one, in every Light, for ſetting about ſuch a Plan? I cannot help hoping, that on the approaching General Election of Members of Parliament, the Citizens of *London* will give Inſtructions to their new Repreſentatives, to make a ſerious Point hereof, where they are ſure to be well heard, and to be ſucceſsful. Unleſs they are to remain perfectly indifferent, whether their native City ſhall continue to be more and more eclipſed and damaged by her own Suburbs, where more new and grand Ornaments, as well as new Trades interfering with the City, are continually increaſing; to the very great Detriment of the City, ſeparately conſidered; occaſioning alſo too many of her Sons and others to withdraw into thoſe now eſteemed finer Parts of the Town.

SUBURBS.

My Taſk is ended, with reſpect to the *ancient*, *noble*, and *opulent* City of *London*. A Place of much more Importance to the Nation, not only than all the Suburbs whatſoever, but likewiſe than many Counties. Yet, as the ſaid *Suburbs* do certainly add conſiderably to the Grandeur of the whole, and help to make up and conſtitute the intire Contiguity; or what Foreigners look upon as one great Capital City; Somewhat is proper to be ſaid of them. And firſt, of the vaſt *Weſtern* Suburb; which, with all its late Improvements, is ſtill defective in point of Neatneſs, Conveniencies, and Ornaments. The narrow Street juſt without *Temple-Bar*, ought certainly to be a *national* Concern; it being ſo inconvenient both for Wheel-Carriages and Foot-Paſſengers. The Removal of about a Score of old Houſes would effectually cure this Evil, ſo long complained of. An equally great Nuiſance of the ſame Sort, is the narrow Part of the Street at *Charing-Croſs*, where, eſpecially in *Parliament* and *Term* Time, Perſons of high Rank are frequently ſeen cloſely hemm'd in, and impriſon'd in their Coaches, by Stops, for a conſiderable Time, which likewiſe may be

SUBURBS.

The Weſtern *Suburbs.*

Narrow Paſſages.

remedy'd, by only removing half a Score of Houſes nearly oppoſite to *Craig's-Court* there. This Paſſage ought more eſpecially to be made wider than any other whatever, as there is no Wheel-Carriage-Way to both Houſes of Parliament, the Courts of Juſtice, the *Exchequer*, nor the *Treaſury*, but by this of *Charing-Croſs*, without going two or three Miles round. How eaſy were it for the Legiſlature to cure both theſe Nuiſances, and at no very great Expence.

Pavements.

As for Street-Pavements, they are indeed rather worſe here than in the City, becauſe under a looſer Government. The like may be ſaid of Rubbiſh, left lying in the Streets, unequal Signs, Cellar-Doors and Windows; and alſo Steps from Street-Doors, all projecting too much into the Foot-Ways. All which, and indeed every other ſuppoſable Nuiſance, might well be redreſſed under the Direction of the Standing-Board herein before deſcribed; by whom alſo another Nuiſance may moſt *naturally* be redreſſed in the Manner following.

Rubbiſh, *&c.*

Furlong-Marks, *for aſcertaining the Fares of* Coaches *and* Chairs.

The vaſt Extent of the Town makes it difficult for Strangers (as well Natives as Foreigners) to judge exactly of the juſt Rates or Fares of Hackney-Coaches and Chairs; ſo that People are often impoſed on, and great and frequent Diſputes happen in the Streets, concerning the Diſtances or Ground.

Ground. Now, for preventing moſt of thoſe Diſputes, let certain very obvious Marks (whether of *Metal*, *Stone*, or *Timber*) be erected at the Diſtance of every *Furlong* in the Streets; and there being eight of thoſe in one Mile, there would generally more than one of them be found in moſt of the conſiderable Streets; and they might be ſo diſtinctly denominated and numbered from the ſeveral different prime Starting-Poſts (as one may term them) at all the moſt remarkable Parts of the Town, that any Diſtance might thus with Eaſe be aſcertained, in any Part within the Bills of Mortality: And thoſe Marks might alſo be eaſily ſo contrived, as to be really ornamental to the Streets.

'Tis much to be wiſhed, that Shopkeepers and others would follow the fine Pattern of Pavement for Foot-Paſſengers, to be ſeen in ſome Parts of *Cornhill*, *Cheapſide*, *Ludgate-Hill*, and the *Strand*, as well as in the great Squares *Weſtward*.

Some Squares *want proper Ornaments.*

The Squares denominated of *Hanover*, *Cavendiſh*, *Berkley*, *Bloomſbury*, and *Queen*'s, certainly want ſome Ornament in the Center of each of them.

St James's-Square.

What Pity it is that ever the South Side of *St James's-Square* ſhould have had any Buildings on it, and much more ſo irregular a Parcel of Houſes as are on it at preſent.

Had

Had that Side been left open to *Pall-Mall*, it would have had a grand Effect.

The Mews, *at* Charing-Croſs.

When the King ſhall judge it proper to re-build the *Eaſt* and *Weſt* Sides of the *Mews* at *Charing-Croſs*, in the ſame Stile with the *North*; and if the Brick-Wall and Houſes on its *South* Side be removed, and a grand Paliſado placed in their Room, it will be a conſiderable Ornament to that Part of the Town; and a Statue, or a Column in the Middle of ſo fine an Opening, would add to its Grandeur.

A Statue on the Parade.

What Place can be more ſuitable for an *Equeſtrian Statue* of his Majeſty, than the *Parade* in *St James's-Park*?

A Column and Statue in Honour of King William.

And, if there be any ſuch Thing as *National Ingratitude*, I hope that Imputation will ſpeedily be wiped off,—by the erecting of a noble Column at *Whitehall*, where *Parliament* and *King-Streets* begin; on the Top of which, a Statue of *King William the Third* might be fixed, looking towards the *two Houſes of Parliament*, and to the *Courts of Juſtice*, as well as to *Weſtminſter-Abbey*; ſince to him, under the Almighty; we owe the Preſervation of our excellent Conſtitution both in Church and State.

As,

As both the *new* and *old Palace-yards* have been ſo much adorned and improved, in his Majeſty's auſpicious Reign, as well as the greateſt Part of *Weſtminſter*; it is ſurely incumbent on that City to erect an Equeſtrian Statue of ſo gracious a Monarch in one of thoſe Openings, as a publick Teſtimony of their Gratitude. Farther that Way, I know of no other Place for Ornaments, excepting what is called the *Broadway*, wherein any moderate one may fitly enough be placed.

The two Palace-yards.

The Broadway, Weſtminſter.

It ſeems to be agreed by almoſt every Body, that there wants ſome kind of grand Ornament on the new Bridge at *Weſtminſter*. Suppoſe it were a fine light *Dome* over the middle Arch, ſupported by four Pillars or Columns, and as many Arches, and a Pedeſtrian Statue on it's Top. Or elſe a covered Gallery, on Pillars, after the Taſte of that fine one of the Earl of *Pembroke*'s Bridge at *Wilton*.

Weſtminſter-Bridge.

There are ſundry other Openings in this *Weſt* and *North-Weſt* Suburb, which well might bear pretty Ornaments; and more eſpecially where ſeveral Streets meet. How often have I ſeen Foreigners and Strangers ſtand agreeably ſurprized, with the View of the Column or Pillar called the *Seven-Dials*; ſeen with ſo great Advantage *from Seven Streets*, in St *Giles*'s Pariſh.

Would

A Subſcription for Weſtminſter Ornaments.

Would but a few Noblemen and Perſons of Diſtinction begin a Subſcription for the beforenamed Purpoſes, I am perſuaded the whole herein propoſed might be effected in a very ſhort Time. And how much to the Glory and Benefit of our great *Metropolis*, needs no farther to be inſiſted on. In ſuch a Subſcription, it is to be hoped would be included, the repairing of the moſt beautiful River-Edifice of its Kind, *York-Buildings Water-Stairs*, now going to utter Decay, although the fineſt in *Europe*, and the Production of the great *Inigo Jones*: A National Shame!

Spital-Fields.

A Subſcription likewiſe amongſt the wealthy Manufacturers of *Spital-Fields*, for Ornaments in ſeveral Parts of that Suburb; as in its Square, its Market, and the Area before the new Church, might probably be ſucceſsful.

Goodman's-Fields.

The Inhabitants of *Goodman's-Fields*, would alſo, it is to be hoped, encourage a Subſcription for Ornaments in their ſpacious Streets; as alſo the Inhabitants of other Parts of the *Tower-Hamlets*, who would do well to remove the beggarly *May-Pole* in *Eaſt-Smithfield*, and in its Stead, place a Pyramid with a large *Globe Lanthorn* on its Top, for caſting a Light to the three Ways centering there; but farther *Eaſtward* there ſeems to be no Room for any Ornaments.

A like

A like Subſcription in the Borough of *Southwark*, where ſo many wealthy People inhabit, would contribute to adorn ſo large a Place, and ſo deſtitute at preſent of Ornaments. Southwark.

On *St Margaret's-Hill* (as it is termed) a fine *Obeliſk* or *Pyramid* would have a very proper Effect, as would alſo certain leſſer Ornaments in ſome other Parts of this Borough. But, firſt of all, it is to be hoped they will remove their Market out of the great Street, where it is ſo much a Nuiſance to all Paſſengers, in more Reſpects than one.

And thus I conclude my Perambulation, ſincerely aſſuring you, Sir, that I am your unknown and impartial Admirer, heartily wiſhing, that the City of *London* may long enjoy the ſubſtantial Bleſſing of being repreſented both in the City and National Senate, by one ſo able, ſo willing and ready on all Occaſions, to ſupport and ſerve her trueſt Intereſts, *&c.*

F I N I S.